

### Weather

- (20) The high shores of Lynn Canal tend to guide winds along its axis while the narrowing to N intensifies winds blowing from S or SE. Southerlies often reach 16 knots or more. In winter, winds from N have been reported to 70 knots along the canal. The sheltering effect of these shores allows a relatively wide swing in temperatures. Average maximums range from about 30°F in January to the low 60's in July with minimums running about 8° to 12° colder. On average, temperatures drop to freezing or below on 115 days, while about 10 days see readings climb to 70°F or more. Extremes range from about -14°F to 83°F. Precipitation is most likely from September through January; an average of 9 to 19 inches of snow per month falls from December through March.

### Chart 17316

- (21) **Hanus Reef** is a dangerous reef that is at the junction of Chatham Strait, Icy Strait, and Lynn Canal. The highest part of the reef, awash at half tide, is marked by **Hanus Reef Light** (58°07'50"N., 135°00'00"W.), 25 feet (7.6 m) above the water and shown from a skeleton tower with a red and white diamond-shaped daymark on a concrete pier. The light marks the entrance to Lynn Canal. At times the tidal current attains a velocity of 2 to 3 knots over the reef.
- (22) **Rocky Island**, grass covered and marked by a light, is 3.2 miles NW of Hanus Reef. The water is deep to within 250 yards of the island. As the currents are erratic in the channel between Rocky Island and Point Couverden, the slight saving in distance this channel offers does not warrant its use; however, if used, vessels should favor Rocky Island, as shoal water extends from Point Couverden.
- (23) **Swanson Harbor** is formed by a group of islands and reefs off the extreme SE point of the mainland at the junction of Icy Strait with Chatham Strait and Lynn Canal. It affords good anchorage and shelter. The NE side of the harbor is formed by Couverden Island and a small island between its NW end and the mainland, all connected at low water. The SW side is formed by Ansley Island and **Entrance Island**.
- (24) **Swanson Harbor Entrance Light 2** (58°11'35"N., 135°04'43"W.), 21 feet (6.4 m) above the water, is shown from a skeleton tower with a red triangular daymark on the SW side of Couverden Island.
- (25) **Sharp Ledge** extends SE from the SE end of Entrance Island. This ledge is covered at half tide and marked by kelp. In May 1983, it was reported that Sharp Ledge extends farther S and E than shown on the chart. Extreme caution is advised.
- (26) **No Use Ledge**, which uncovers 12 feet, is about 0.4 mile NW of the NW end of Couverden Island. A small narrow channel, marked by piles between the small island N of Couverden Island and No Use Ledge, leads E from Swanson Harbor to a cove on the N side of Couverden Island; this channel should only be used by small craft at high water.
- (27) To enter Swanson Harbor, bring Rocky Island astern on a NW course and follow the SW shore of Couverden Island at a distance of about 250 yards until Entrance Island is passed. Then steer a midchannel course until up with the NW end of Couverden Island. Then follow the shore of Ansley Island at a distance of about 250 yards to the anchorage. Anchor with the NE side of Entrance Island just open from the E side of Ansley Island, and with the NW end of Ansley Island bearing S, distant 0.3 mile, in 14 to 16 fathoms, soft bottom. Small vessels anchor close in the head of the bay or to the E side of the head behind No Use Ledge.
- (28) **Couverden Island** and the islands close by appear from most points of view as a long, low, wooded point, the SE extremity being **Point Couverden**. The State of Alaska has a floating pier at the NW end of Couverden Island.
- (29) **Couverden Rock** is 2.4 miles NNE of Rocky Island and should not be approached closer than 200 yards. It is the outer one of the group of islands and rocks that extends 4 miles SE from the W shore of Lynn Canal.
- (30) **Funter Bay**, the best and most convenient anchorage in the vicinity, is on the E side of Chatham Strait at its junction with Lynn Canal, about 10.5 miles S of Point Retreat and 5.5 miles NE of Rocky Island.
- (31) Near the S point at the entrance are several small islands with a clear channel between. **Station Island**, the largest and wooded, is joined by two small islets to the S at low water by a boulder beach. A rock, covered less than a ¼-fathom at low water is 0.1 mile SW of the two small islets. **Rat Island**, bare, is 0.2 mile NE of Station Island; a ledge that bares extends 0.1 mile NW from it.
- (32) **Funter Bay Entrance Light 1** (58°14'37"N., 134°55'00"W.), shown 16 feet (4.9 m) above the water from a pedestal on a house with a green square daymark on **Clear Point**, marks the N side of the entrance to Funter Bay.
- (33) Four islets are in Funter Bay between Clear Point and the head. **Bare Island** is the first from Clear Point. A 1-fathom shoal is about 100 yards SE of Bare Island. **Curlew Ledge**, bare at low water, is 200 yards S of Bare Island. A shoal, with 1¼ fathoms over it, extends 100 yards S from the ledge and is marked at its SE end by a buoy. **Gauge Island**, the second islet, is wooded and surrounded by ledges. **Star Rock**, a small pinnacle, bare